

In the Drawings:

Please replace the original three sheets of drawings bearing Figs. 1 to 6 with the enclosed three Replacement Sheets. The Replacement Sheets correspond to the original drawings, except for being improved formally (e.g. uniformity and darkness of lines and reference characters). Thus, no new matter has been introduced. Entry and approval of the Replacement Sheets of Formal Drawings are respectfully requested.

**[RESPONSE CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE]**

REMARKS:

- 1) Referring to item 10) of the Office Action Summary, the Examiner's attention is directed to the enclosed Letter to the Official Draftsperson accompanied by three Replacement Sheets of Formal Drawings. These Formal Drawings correspond to the original Informal Drawings, except for improved darkness and uniformity of the lines, reference characters, etc. Entry and approval of the Replacement Sheets of Formal Drawings are respectfully requested.
- 2) The original specification of this application was based on a literal translation of a corresponding foreign text. The specification has now been amended in a formal manner merely to insert the typical US application section headings. These formal amendments do not introduce any new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.
- 3) The claims have been amended as follows.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of original claim 2.

Claim 2 has been canceled.

Claims 3 to 6 have been amended for proper conformance and dependence in view of the amendment of claim 1 and cancellation of claim 2, and for stylistic streamlining.

Claims 7 to 18 have been maintained without amendment.

The claim amendments, which merely involve claim combination and editorial conformance, do not introduce any new matter. Entry and consideration of the claim amendments are respectfully requested.

- 4) Referring to the middle of page 3 of the Office Action, the allowance of claims 7 to 18 and the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 2 to 5 are appreciated.

Claims 7 to 18 have been maintained without amendment, and should thus still stand allowed.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of original claim 2. Thus, claim 1 and its dependent claims 3 to 6 should now also be allowable.

- 5) Referring to pages 2 to 3 of the Office Action, the prior art rejections of claims 1 and 6 have been obviated by the present amendment. Namely, independent claim 1 now incorporates the allowable subject matter of non-rejected claim 2, so that the rejections cannot be maintained. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

[RESPONSE CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE]

6) Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application, including all present claims 1 and 3 to 18, are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

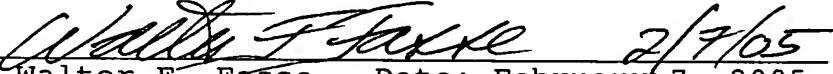
Edmund JULIUS  
Applicant

WFF:ar/4536  
Enclosures:  
postcard,  
Letter to Draftsman,  
3 Replacement Sheets of  
Formal Drawings

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING:

I hereby certify that this correspondence with all indicated enclosures is being deposited with the U. S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail, in an envelope addressed to: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below.

  
Name: Walter F. Fasse - Date: February 7, 2005